

My name is Merle Bone and I am a licensed amateur radio operator with the FCC assigned call sign of W0EWM. I have spent much of my career in communications engineering and have watched the explosion in digital technology revolutionize the communications industry and hobby. The advent of digital technology has allowed the development of "all software defined" radio systems as well as other communications capabilities. I believe it would be very wrong to "limit technological development" in deference to ineffective copyright laws. It is impossible to say "what won't be developed" if we begin limiting the use of digital technologies. NPRM 02-230 has the great potential to create "unintended consequences," many of which cannot be currently known. Radio amateurs, and other technological adventurers should not be inhibited from experimenting and developing the communications systems of the next decade and century. Whatever the intended purpose of NPRM 02-230, it should be accomplished without restricting the use of technology. If it is the "outcome" that is trying to be limited, it should be restricted by definition and legislation.

Thank you,  
Merle Bone